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8 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
9 AT SEATTLE

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11 KA WAI JIMMY LO,

12 Plaintiff,

13 v.

14 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

15 Defendant.

CASE NO. 2:17-cv-01202-TL

ORDER REGARDING MOTION TO
WITHDRAW AS COUNSEL

16
17 This matter comes before the Court on the motion of Plaintiff's counsel Michael Reid to
18 withdraw as counsel (the "Motion to Withdraw"). Dkt. No. 110. The Court has reviewed the
19 Motion to Withdraw and the relevant record. As Plaintiff is represented by multiple attorneys
20 from different firms and granting the Motion to Withdraw will not leave Plaintiff without
21 representation, *see* Dkt. No. 110 at 2, leave of the Court is not required for Mr. Reid to withdraw
22 from the case. *See* LCR 83.2(b)(3).

23 The Motion to Withdraw fails to fully satisfy the technical requirements of Local Civil
24 Rule 83.2(b)(3), namely for its failure to include the signatures of Plaintiff's remaining counsel.

1 See LCR 83.2(b)(3) (“The [Notice of Withdrawal] shall be signed by the withdrawing attorney(s)
2 and the remaining attorney(s) of record . . .”). However, Mr. Reid represents that Plaintiff, co-
3 counsel Anthony Marsh of Hermann Law Group, and defense counsel have consented to
4 Mr. Reid’s withdrawal from the case. Dkt. No. 110 at 2. Co-counsel Xi Wang, who has also
5 appeared in the case as counsel for Plaintiff, is a colleague of Mr. Marsh who has not personally
6 consented to Mr. Reid’s withdrawal. However, lawyers of the same firm are ordinarily treated as
7 one lawyer. *See* Wash. Rules of Pro. Conduct r. 1.10, cmt. 2 (noting “the premise that a firm of
8 lawyers is essentially one lawyer” in the context of duties of client loyalty). In addition, Ms. Xi
9 was served with the Motion to Withdraw via ECF notification, *see* Dkt. No. 110 at 3, and had an
10 opportunity to object, which she has not done. Accordingly, and in light of Mr. Reid’s significant
11 and potentially debilitating health problems, *see* Dkt. No. 110 at 2, the Court finds that these
12 errors are non-prejudicial and excusable in this instance.

13 For the foregoing reasons, Mr. Reid’s motion to withdraw as counsel for Plaintiff (Dkt.
14 No. 110) is GRANTED.

15 IT IS SO ORDERED.

16 Dated this 7th day of February 2022.

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Tana Lin
19 United States District Judge
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